

The 2025 WINTER/SPRING OakLeaf

VILLAGE OF GREEN OAKS NEWSLETTER



President's Corner

Bernie Wysocki ~ Village President

Every January the Board of Trustees convenes a strategic planning meeting. The session lasts several hours as we review our past years goals and budget and explore new projects and appropriations. Let me bullet point some of the highlights of that meeting.

- **Balanced Budget** - Continued to pass a balanced budget without a tax levy. It allows the village to retain a AAA Rating thus saving residents thousands of dollars on projects
- **Continue Low-Cost Water Rates** – lowest water rate compared to surrounding communities
- **Memorial Garden** – Completed Phase I of the garden on the corner of O'Plaine Rd. & Rt. 137
- **Increased Public Safety** – Installed Flock Safety cameras at entry points to the village. Added a Public Safety Officer to help patrol our roads, business and neighborhoods
- **Speed Monitoring** – purchased digital speed signs to be placed across Village
- **Roadways Resurfaced** – completed the last three subdivisions (Brookhaven, Arbor Lakes, Creekside) – completed the 10-year project of resurfacing all local roads in 6 years without any increase of road tax
- **Most Licensed Businesses** – the Village issued 174 Business Licenses in 2024. New construction with Gas N Wash, U- Haul, and Lambs Farm
- **Processed \$11.1 Million in Building Permits in 2024**
 - The TIF District on the east side of the tollway EAV (Equal Assessed Valuation) has increased from \$35 Million to over \$74 Million in 10 years
- **Business Façade Programs** – partnered with several to improve the parking lots, landscaping, painting and upkeep of the business
- **Subdivision Grant Program** – reimbursed 50% of the cost for subdivision improvements
- **Assisted the Libertyville Fire Department** – contributed \$47,303 to the Libertyville Fire Protection District to add additional ambulance and equipment

What's Next for Village

- Major Public Works water expansion of water mains on Cranbrook Rd and Lexington Road Street Work for the SSA will occur on the following streets:
 - Cranbrook Road
 - Kenton Lane (north-south portion east of Glenmore Rd)
 - Lexington Road (east of Glenmore Road)
- Street signs and safety sign replacement with decorative posts
- Memorial Garden – Phase II landscaping and paver memorial stones
- Resurfacing and improving trails systems
- New business development in the TIF District
- Community Events – Cars and Coffee, Oaktoberfest and Santa Parade

It's been a busy 2024 & 2025 will again be as busy so I again request your patience during construction season.



JOHN WAGENER

Thanks for the Memories John!

Retiring trustee, John Wagener, served on the Village Board for 27 years. The Village Board and the residents of Green Oaks would like to thank John for his dedication to the Village of Green Oaks and for his service on the Public Works Committee, which was instrumental in bringing water and sewer service to many residents within the Village. In addition, John served as the Green Oaks' SWALCO Director for more than 20 years. We wish John all good things in his retirement.



Welcome...Trustee Jack Flaig!

At the January 29th Village Board Meeting, Jack Flaig was sworn in as a new Trustee and Chairman of Public Works. Jack is a 35-year resident of the Village. Jack's daughter Jennifer and granddaughters, Morgan and Anna live in Park Ridge. He is a University of IL graduate in mechanical engineering, served in the US Navy and worked at Outboard Marine for 40 years. Jack's life and work experience will be an asset to the Village. The Board would like to welcome and congratulate Jack.



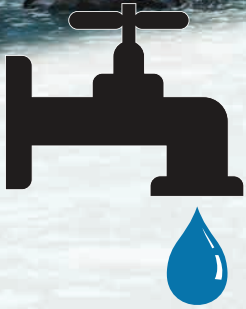
Village President, Bernie Wysocki Swearing in New Public Works Village Trustee Jack Flaig



Welcome John!

Green Oaks welcomes John Van Dien II, our new Public Safety Officer.





Learn How to Connect to Water & Sewer

The Village has compiled a webpage which contains information regarding the SSA establishment process, costs, potential limits of the service area, and several other items.

For More Information, Please Visit Our Webpage At GreenOaks.org

SSA's 14 & 15 Watermain Extension Project

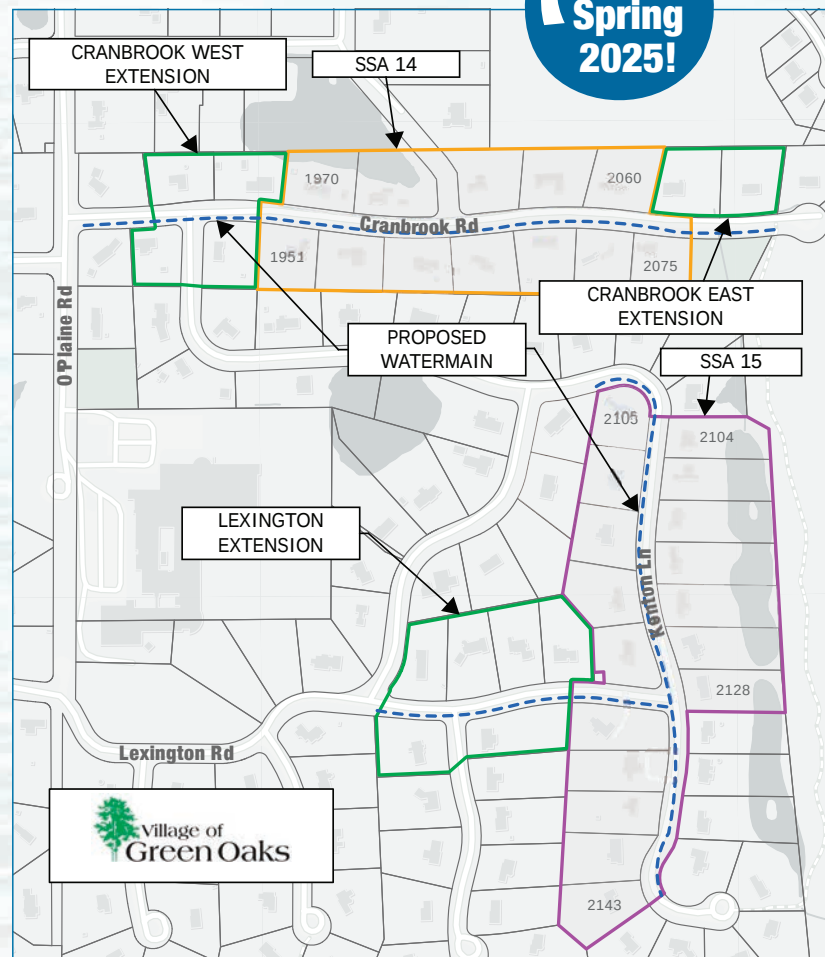
The Public Works Committee is pleased to announce that the Village's contractor will be beginning work on the SSA's No. 14 & 15 Watermain Extension project in Spring 2025. This project is located along Cranbrook Road, Kenton Lane (north-south portion) and Lexington Road (east of Glenmore Road). Each lot in the special service area will be provided a service stub for connection to public water supply. Homeowners looking to connect are responsible for contracting with a plumber and obtaining a building permit from the Village. Once the permit is received, water connection can be completed. Connection to the watermain is not mandatory unless there is a failure with the well on a property. A public information meeting will be held prior to the start of construction to meet the Village representatives.

Cranbrook Road will be resurfaced as part of the watermain improvements. Construction is slated to start in late spring and will continue through the summer. The Village will have a webpage with periodic construction updates. Additionally, contact information from the Village representative will be provided closer to construction.

If you live in this service area and currently do not receive Village emails/voicemail, please contact the Village right away so we can add you to our database. This will ensure that you get the most up-to-date information on the SSA process. Kindly call Village Hall Monday – Friday, 9am-2pm, or simply email your contact information to julie.goodman@greenoaks.org.

Dust, noise, and minor traffic inconveniences are inherent to the construction process.

We appreciate your patience and understanding while we complete this work.



2025 Construction Projects

1. Special Service Area 14 and 15 Water Main Extensions –

A watermain extension which will provide water service to over 30 properties along portions of Kenton, Cranbrook, and Lexington Road will begin in the spring and end in the late summer/early fall. This is a significant project which will impact the aforementioned streets.

2. Cranbrook Road Rehabilitation – As part of SSA 14 and 15, Cranbrook Road will be rehabilitated between Kenton Lane and the east cul-de-sac. Construction will occur in Summer 2025.

3. Hydrant Painting – The Village is starting a hydrant painting program and will start with hydrants in the northern portion of the Village. Hydrants will be sand blasted, primed, and painted.

4. Route 176 Buckthorn Clearing Projects – The final of three vegetation removal contracts is wrapping up this spring. The south bank adjacent to Route 176 has been cleared of invasive trees and is being restored with native plantings. Establishment of native vegetation takes three to five years, and we are starting to see establishment of native plants on the central segment which was cleared in the early 2020's.

5. Bradley Road Crosswalk – The Village is completing design and permitting of a crosswalk on the west side of the Bradley Road and Route 176 intersection to provide accessibility from the North Shore Bike Path north to the business district. Construction will be in late 2025 or early 2026.



2020 O'Plaine Road • Green Oaks, IL 60048
Phone: 847.362.5363 • greenoaks.org
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9am - 2pm

MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULES

Combined TIF & Committee of the Whole:
1st Wednesday @ 7:30pm
Plan Commission: 2nd Wednesday @ 7:30pm
~ As Needed ~
Committee of the Whole: 3rd Wed @ 7:30pm
Regular Board: 4th Wednesday @ 7:30pm

Bernard Wysocki ~ Village President

bernard.wysocki@greenoaks.org

Denise Kafkis ~ Village Administrator

denise.kafkis@greenoaks.org

Clare Michelotti ~ Village Clerk

clare.michelotti@greenoaks.org

TRUSTEES

Richard Glogovsky ~

Annexation, Planning & Zoning
richard.glogovsky@greenoaks.org

Pete Furlong ~ Building

pete.furlong@greenoaks.org

Mahdi Sellami ~ Finance

mahdi.sellami@greenoaks.org

Kevin Griffin ~ Public Affairs

kevin.griffin@greenoaks.org

Jack Flaig ~ Public Works

jack.flraig@greenoaks.org

Dan Sugrue ~ Streets & Roads

dan.sugrue@greenoaks.org

PLAN COMMISSION

Jeff Powers ~ Chairman

Greg Winters ~ Vice-Chairman

MEMBERS

Justin Beger, Tony Filippo, Pamela Milroy,
Anne Gordon, Scott Singer



Public Affairs

Kevin Griffin ~ Village Trustee



On Sunday, December 8, 2024, Green Oaks held its annual Santa Parade. Santa and his elves traveled throughout the Village throwing candy and spreading cheer in every neighborhood. Residents were out in full force waving to Santa and enjoying the sights and sounds of the holiday. Village Trustee Rich Glogovsky was our dancing Santa this year. Thank you, Rich!!!





Sprinklers Save Lives!

Lt. Michael Weaver of the Libertyville Fire Department relayed the importance of sprinkler systems in businesses and homes. Please read the most recent save from Lt. Weaver:

On December 17, 2024, at just after 7:00am, Libertyville Fire Department responded for an activated fire alarm at a local manufacturing plant on Rockland Road in Green Oaks, IL. On arrival crews were met by workers on scene who stated there was a fire that had been put out by the sprinkler system. The fire started in a machine that adds flammable liquid adhesive to rolls of cloth. The machine operator noticed the fire and tried to put it out with a fire extinguisher, but the fire continued to grow until two sprinkler heads activated and quickly extinguished the fire. No fire damage to the structure was noted as the fire was contained to the machine where it had originated. Crews shut down that portion of the system, put the fire alarm back in service & instructed management

to post a fire watch until the sprinkler system could be turned back on in that zone. Management stated that they expected to have the water cleaned up within a few hours and would continue operations in other areas of the plant where the sprinkler system was still live.

This represents the 3rd fire sprinkler save in the Libertyville Fire Department's response district in 2024. Previously, fire sprinklers in a crowded restaurant extinguished a dramatic fire at a buffet table on Mother's Day and a single sprinkler head put out a fire in an attached garage of a single family home. The restaurant was able to re-open within a few days of their incident and the homeowner was not forced out of their home for any time at all. Minor injuries were reported in the restaurant fire and no injuries were reported in the other two incidents.



Sherrif Idleburg Introduces Newest Sherrif's K9 Lux!

Lake County Sheriff John D. Idleburg is proud to announce that K9 Lux, a direct offspring of the late K9 Dax, has officially joined the Lake County Sheriff's Office as its newest police canine.

Before his passing, K9 Dax ~ a highly decorated member of the Sheriff's Canine Unit ~ fathered a litter of puppies. Among them, Deputy John Forlenza – Dax's longtime partner – recognized that one stood out with the potential to follow in his father's footsteps. That puppy, K9 Lux, was selected as the top candidate for future law enforcement training.

Deputy Forlenza was one of two deputies selected this winter to be a handler of one of the sheriff's office next two canines. Upon receiving this opportunity, he donated K9 Lux to Tops K9, the training facility responsible for preparing the Sheriff's Canine Unit. K9 Lux and Deputy Forlenza have been officially partnered, to be the newest Lake County Sheriff's Office Canine Team and the two will begin training together this spring. Deputy John Forlenza said, "I would like to

express my profound sense of gratitude and happiness that the Lake County Sheriff's Office has officially named K9 Dax's son, K9 Lux, as my new partner. Dax was remarkable and always did his duty with great courage and dedication throughout his career. I am honored and grateful for the opportunity to continue as a member of the Lake County Sheriff's Office K9 Team, and to serve the citizens of Lake County with K9 Lux."

"We are proud to introduce K9 Lux as the newest member of our K9 Unit," said Sheriff John D. Idleburg. "Lux carries on an incredible legacy, as a direct offspring of our beloved K9 Dax. We have no doubt that Lux, alongside Deputy Forlenza, will continue to serve and protect the residents of Lake County with the same dedication and bravery."

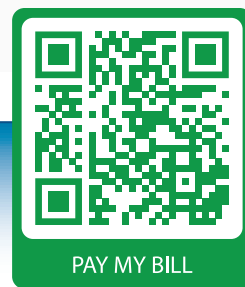


A Day @ The Office

Denise Kafkis ~ Village Administrator

Moving In or Out

- Are you moving? Please contact Cathy.Farina@greenoaks.org or simply call the Village, Monday – Friday, 9am-2pm, at least two business days but no earlier than 30 days prior to the move.
- Please provide your forwarding address and the name of the buyer, if available. A final meter reading will be taken and your account will be closed as of the property close date. You should expect a final bill at the next quarterly billing cycle.
- Service for rental properties will be billed to the tenant or the landlord, depending on the information provided for our records. We will need the name, phone number and move-in date of new tenants, and the date and forwarding address of the tenants moving out. We will obtain a meter reading on the moving date(s). As property owner, the landlord is responsible for updating this information and for the resolution of delinquent bills.
- Third party requests for property closing letters and final bills should be emailed to cathy.farina@greenoaks.org at least two business days prior to the scheduled closing. The request must include company name, your name and title, phone number and email. Include the property address, closing date, seller's name, forwarding address, and buyer's name.



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**The Village Bills Sewer, Water, and
Sewer Maintenance Quarterly:**

- **January 10 •**
- **April 10 •**
- **July 10 •**
- **October 10 •**



**Our Residential Waste Hauler Observes 6 Holidays Per Year.
Collection Is Delayed 1 Day For The Following Holidays:**

**New Years • Memorial Day • 4th of July
Labor Day • Thanksgiving • Christmas**

Finance

Mahdi Sellami ~ Village Trustee

Municipal Bonds

Government entities like the Village of Green Oaks, need financing to carry their responsibilities.

Besides tax revenue, which is the main source, municipal bonds are methods of borrowing which offer supplemental revenue, especially when it comes to financing major capital expenditure projects.

A defining feature of such municipal bonds is the tax-free interest rate charged by the lender along with a preset time schedule for repaying the debt (interest + principal). The interest rate depends on the rating, a measure of the financial "health" of the borrower, and the higher the rating, the lower the risk and the lower the interest rate charged by the bond buyers.

Before committing to such bonds, municipalities are mandated to conduct a public hearing as an opportunity to inform and gather feedback from residents. Once the mutual decision is made to move forward with a bond, municipalities are statutorily entitled to pass through the principal and interest portion of the bond to residents as

an incremental property tax (aka. Tax Levy) invoiced and collected on the property tax bill.

In the case of our Village, Green Oaks, we currently have four outstanding bonds that were obtained to finance key projects related to road improvement as well as our TIF district. Green Oaks stewardship and prudent fiscal management practices have two important implications as it relates to these bonds:

1. It earned the Village a top 'AAA' bond rating allowing us to negotiate the lowest interest rates.
2. It generated enough savings that allow the Village to cover the principal and interest on these four bonds without having recourse to incremental taxpayer money (no need for the Tax Levy described above). As such, the Village proactively directs the Lake County Clerk to waive any tax billing related to these bonds for Green Oaks residents (a process called tax abatement). Taking 2024 as an example, the principal and interest on the four outstanding bonds amounted to \$912,250 none of which is passed through to residents saving what would have been approximately \$500 in incremental property tax for an average Green Oaks home.

Transparency and fiscal responsibility are core to who we are as a Village!

SAVE THE DATE!

*Celebrating
THE Spirit*
LAMBS FARM
ANNUAL GALA

**Friday, May 16, 2025 • Cuneo Mansion & Gardens
1350 Milwaukee Avenue • Vernon Hills, Illinois**

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe that 2025 is here already, and that means it's time for you to put our spring gala on your calendar!

Lambs Farm will Celebrate the Spirit on May 16 at Cuneo Mansion & Gardens. We hope you will join us for an evening of fun and frolic to support the remarkable men and women of Lambs Farm.

Visit [Lambsfarm.org](https://lambsfarm.org) for complete details



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Rich Glogovsky ~ Village Trustee

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Upcoming Events

CONSOLIDATED ELECTION DAY

April 1, 2025

2ND QUARTER WATER/SEWER BILLING DUE

April 30, 2025

GROOT ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN-UP

May 19/21, 2025

